

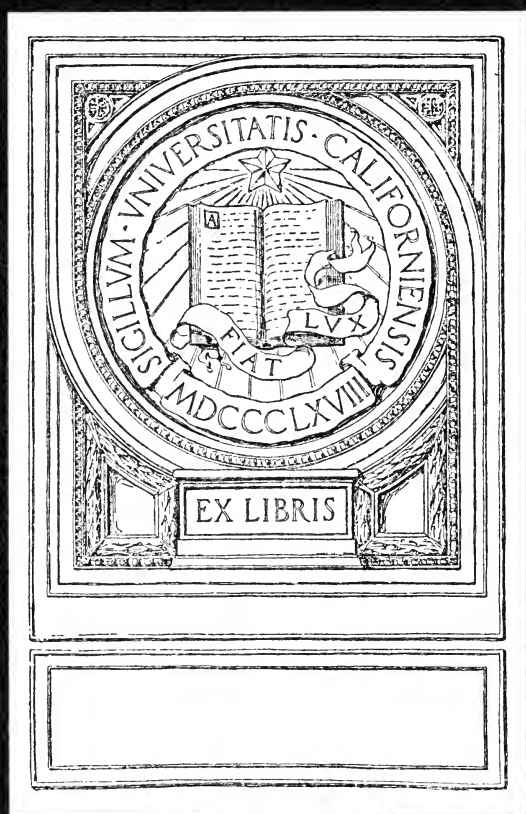
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Union of International Associations

Palais Mondial, Bruxelles

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International University

September 3, 1920, a Conference was called to create the International University. A report prepared by the Union of International Associations was placed before the assembly and cognizance was given of an inquiry among the Universities of the various countries and among the International Associations, inquiry showing the deep interest taken in the question by the university and intellectual world.

After a general discussion, the Conference adopted in principle the idea of founding definitively the International University of which an experimental session was just in operation at the time being. A special commission was appointed in order to prepare a draft of its statute; the draft was readily and unanimously approved while a final article provides for a revision within two years.

The object of the new institution is explained in article one, as follows :

« The International University shall aim at uniting, in a movement of higher education and universal culture, the Universities and International Associations. It will enable a proportion of students to complete their education by initiating them into the international and comparative aspects of all great problems. With this end in view, it shall organize annually a number of courses and lectures, if possible at its seat or in such other place as may be selected by common agreement. The sessions shall be completed by a University Tour systematically organized by the different Universities.

» At these sessions, Universities shall be invited to send their Professors and Lecturers, to expound the general results of their researches in courses of lectures. The International Associations

shall be invited, to make known, through their authorized representatives, the present state of the most important questions in which they are engaged, the Nations to endow chairs for the study of their respective countries, institutions and civilization.

» The University shall also act as a centre for higher educational studies and scientific, technical and social research. Laboratories and Institutes may be associated with it. In particular, it will serve to establish the most complete agreement between the principles which control the evolution of civilization and the development of the League of Nations. »

The statute establishes a Committee of 21 members, recognizes as official languages French and English, but enables every professor to lecture in any other language at his choice, provided it be of wide international use; it also fixes the administrative seat of the International University at the International Center in Brussels. Cooperation with the League of Nations, the Union of International Associations and the International Confederation of Students is secured.

* * *

From the 5th till the 20th of September, 1920, took place the first fortnight session of the International University. Courses and lectures were given every day. Forty-seven professors from ten different countries (Belgium, France, Great-Britain, Japan, Mexico, Netherland, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, United States) gave 143 lessons. Thirteen International Associations organized their own professorships. An account of the work accomplished by the League of Nations was expounded by a special delegate. The International Labour Bureau promised its collaboration. More than hundred foreign students from eleven different countries were present at the courses. More than hundred visitors joined with them. Every morning was devoted to oral explanations. Nearly every day the five auditories were crowded with people. The afternoons were used for didactic visits and scientific outings.

The questions expounded were those included in the general programme, with a special consideration given to the most recent scientific discoveries, the problems of world reconstruction and the League of Nations.

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The scheme of the International University was presented to the League of Nations at the beginning of 1920 and its support was asked for. The Council in its session at San Sebastian, after a report by Mr. Leon Bourgeois, adopted the following resolution : « While reserving the question of patronage, to convey to the Union of International Associations the expression of its sympathy with the new work which it has undertaken, as well as its most sincere good wishes for its success, and to give it the assurance that the Secretariat of the League of Nations is authorised to facilitate to the fullest extent of its powers the achievement of the work of international interest which the University is undertaking. »

By a letter of August 14, 1920, Sir Eric Drummond, forwarded this decision and enabled the University Conference to convey its most hearty thanks to the League of Nations for this high token of sympathy, expressing the hope that the International University may be recognized as an institution of international utility, in compliance with articles 24 and 25 of the Covenant, and that grants should be allowed to it.

At its meeting of December 18, 1920, the Assembly of Delegates at Geneva passed a resolution approving the Council and asking it to persevere in its action (1).

* * *

The International Confederation of Students, founded at Strasbourg in 1919, has from the beginning given its most active cooperation to the International University. Its national sections supplied information, to the students in the various countries, about the new institution. The Confederation called its General Assembly at

(1) The Assembly of the League of Nations, approving the assistance which the Council has given to works having for object the development of international cooperation in the domain of intellectual activity and especially the moral and material support given to the Union of International Associations on the occasion of the inaugural session of the International University and of the publication of the List of recommendations and resolutions of the International Congresses :

Recommends that the Council should continue its efforts in this direction, and should associate itself, as closely as possible, with all measures tending to bring about the International Organisation of Intellectual Work.

Brussels, September 10, 1920, and following days. Delegates sent by twelve associations shared in the meetings. Part of the work done was devoted to the aims of the International University of which the creation was welcomed with greatest enthusiasm.

A declaration by the University Youth was passed, fraught with optimism and faith in the movement for the intellectual revival of the world, out of which the International University is born.

Statute of the International University

In order to assist in giving to intellectual forces their due share in the organization of international life and to further by the foundation of an institution the movement for the interchange of University Teachers and Students from the different countries :—

- (1) The Universities and Institutions of higher education undersigned or subsequently adhering to the present statute,
- (2) The International Associations undersigned or subsequently adhering to the present statute,
- (3) The Union of International Associations which, in cooperation with these Associations, has organized an International Centre and placed its services at the disposal of the League of Nations,
- (4) The International Associations and Federations of Students and the International Confederation of Students,

have hereby constituted the International University which shall be governed by this Statute and whose aim shall be to carry out the various objects set forth in the ensuing programme.

I. — AIM AND ORGANIZATION.

The International University shall aim at uniting, in a movement of higher education and universal culture, the Universities and International Associations. It will enable a proportion of students to complete their education by initiating them into the international

and comparative aspects of all great problems. With this end in view, it shall organize annually a number of courses and lectures, if possible at its seat or in such other place as may be selected by common agreement. The sessions shall be completed by a University Tour systematically organized by the different Universities.

At these sessions, Universities shall be invited to send their Professors and Lecturers, to expound the general results of their researches in courses of lectures. The International Associations shall be invited, to make known through their authorized representatives, the present state of the most important questions in which they are engaged, the Nations to endow chairs for the study of their respective countries, institutions and civilization.

The University shall also act as a centre for higher educational studies and scientific, technical, and social research. Laboratories, and Institutes may be associated with it. In particular, it will serve to establish the most complete agreement between the principles which control the evolution of civilization and the development of the League of Nations.

II. — MEMBERS.

The members of the International University shall be :—

(1) *Corporate Bodies* : Universities, Higher Educational Institutions and International Associations.

(2) *Individuals* : University Teachers and Students.

III. — ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY.

Pending the organization of the International University, which shall not exceed two calendar years, it shall be administered by a Committee of twenty one members elected by the Universities, Higher Educational Institutions and Associations being collective members of the International University. Each member shall be entitled to one vote. The Committee shall elect from its number an executive committee of three. The Committee shall be responsible for drawing up its own standing orders.

Two delegates shall be elected, as members of the said Committee, respectively by the Teaching Staff and Students so soon as these bodies can meet.

The Union of International Associations shall place its administrative machinery at the disposal of the International University until the International University be fully organized.

The first revision of the statute, under article XIII, shall provide for the actual administrative machinery of the International University. The election of the provisional Committee shall be conducted by correspondence before March 1st. 1921, at the instance of the committee of the Union of International Associations.

IV. — LEGAL STATUS.

The University is constituted as an international association, under the terms of the Belgian Act October 25th., 1919, granting « *Capacité Juridique* » to International Associations that have no pecuniary end. Application shall be made to the League of Nations with a view to the recognition of the International University under the terms of Articles 25 and 26 of the Covenant of Paris.

V. — STUDENTS AND ASSOCIATES.

The International University primarily appeals to students of both sexes intending to supplement the education received in Universities and Higher Educational Institutions. Further it appeals to all wishing to equip themselves efficiently for the higher offices in International Administration or in the League of Nations as well as for any other career in which an extensive training in international questions is necessary or desirable. Finally it offers adequate means of study to all desiring to keep abreast of professional progress or to enlarge their general culture.

VI. — COURSES OF STUDY.

The courses of study shall comprise instruction in the doctrines and various movements of international scope, the most recent theories and facts, standardised methods and the international organisation of studies and research. It will include a general section wherein all branches of knowledge may be represented, a number of national chairs devoted to the study of the different nations, and placed under the direct patronage of their respective governments, and a cycle of courses on international organization and the League of Nations.

VII. — PRINCIPLES.

The International University is independent of any special doctrine. The broadest spirit of tolerance prevails in the relations between its Staff, Students and Associates.

VIII. — LANGUAGES.

The recognised languages of the International University shall be French and English selected as being the official languages of the League of Nations, but every Professor or Lecturer shall be entitled to lecture in any other language provided it be of wide international use.

IX. — ADMINISTRATIVE SEAT AND PREMISES.

The International University has its administrative seat at the International Centre founded in Brussels by the Union of International Associations. An agreement shall be entered upon for placing at the disposal of the International University the scientific institutions of this Centre : Offices, Institutes, Laboratories and collections of the International Museum, of the International Library and of the International Bibliographical Institute.

X. — UNIVERSITY LIFE.

Measures shall be taken by the Council of the University in cooperation with the Students' International Federation in order to secure the best conditions of social intercourse, comfort, welfare and cost for the organization of University life. Special facilities shall be provided for the study of modern languages.

XI. — SESSIONS. UNIVERSITY TOURS.

The International University shall organize sessions varying in length according to circumstances. It shall also organize complementary University Tours with the help of the several associated Universities.

XII. — FINANCE.

The sources of revenue of the I. U. shall consist of :—

- (1) Subscriptions, contributions and fees paid by the collective and individual members of the I. U.
- (2) Grants from the various states, public authorities and corporations, the League of Nations, the responsible national and international associations.
- (3) Private endowments and grants.
- (4) Any other source compatible with the aim of the institution.

The budget of the I. U. is drawn up annually by the Executive Committee; the annual balance sheet is submitted by the Executive Committee to the approval of the Committee.

XIII. — REVISION OF STATUTE.

The present Statute shall be revised within two calendar years by a general assembly summoned by the Executive Committee. The composition of the said general assembly shall be provisionally determined by the Committee. Each of the collective members shall be represented by at least one delegate.

Programme of the Second Session

The subjects to be treated are taken from the general programme adopted when the International University was established. They pertain to the domains of law, economics, sociology, pure sciences, technics, hygiene, medicine, philosophy, ethics, literature, philology and art, and will give rise to statements and explanations in the following order :

1. The League of Nations. The Covenant and how it was adopted, the organisation of the League, the institutions which are subordinate to it, how it works and what its activity has been since its creation.

Lectures by delegates appointed by the League of Nations (2 courses).

2. Actual state of various countries : studies at an economic, intellectual and political point of view ; place occupied by the countries in the world economy ; what they have given to civilisation and what civilisation has given to them.

The occupants of the national professorships will be appointed by the Governments or the Universities of the countries concerned (7 or 8 courses).

3. The great international problems now to be solved and the international aspects of certain questions : the new conditions of

international economic life; labor questions; international protection of public health; international transportation; international politics and history of actual foreign relations.

These professorships will be organized by International Associations (20 courses).

4. Statements about scientific questions of which the importance is obvious, but which are not already included in the traditional programmes of most of the Universities.

Professorships intrusted to known masters of various Universities, invited to lecture by the International University at the request of students and auditors (10 courses).

5. Statements about scientific problems not actually solved, but opening new views and new perspectives to scientific research.

Professorships intrusted to masters of various Universities or scientists officially admitted at their own request (12 courses).

6. Accounts on the most recent discoveries made in the various sciences during the last year.

Professorships intrusted to leading men of International Associations or directors of the most important international scientific records (10 courses).

7. Synthetic statements on the most general results and the most adequate methods of scientific investigation in relation with the following subjects: 1. Matter and energy. 2. Astronomy and the genesis of celestial bodies. 3. Origin and transformation of life. 4. The earth and human geography. 5. The nature of man. 6. The races (ethnography). 7. Human societies (sociology). 8. Philosophy, metaphysics and the synthesis of sciences. 9. Ethics and the rules of collective conduct. 10. Compared methods.

Statement by leaders of modern thought invited to cooperate on the basis of a general plan (10 courses).

8. Artistic questions in their relations with the general development of civilisation (history, technics, social aspect): 1. General history of art. 2. Esthetics. 3. International organisation of artistic education. 4. Architecture: its various periods. 5. Painting and sculpture: studies on some masters. 6. Music: studies on some masters. (6 courses).

9. Methods to facilitate the use of the great world languages for scientific purposes: 1. French. 2. English. 3. Spanish. 4. Slavic languages. 5. Esperanto.

Professorships to be organized by the associations which aim at the study and diffusion of languages (5 courses).

International Center

The International University is in close relation with the various scientific institutions located actually at the World Palace (Palais Mondial) at Brussels. These institutions have established an International Center, vast and complex instrument of information, placed at the disposal of the intellectual workers of the world : Universal Bibliographical Catalogue, Documentary Cyclopædia, International Library, International Museum. A similar system of classification is applied to these collections of cards, books, files, clippings, drawings, diagrams, models ; they form a collective memory compiling the knowledge of men and every daymore apt to answer to any enquiry, a memory which will never forget the knowledge acquired !

The Union of International Associations has taken charge of the supervision of the work to be performed ; the cooperation of their committees and members enabled the Union to proceed with the realization of the huge undertaking aiming at the International Organization of Intellectual Labor.

A Conference is called in order to discuss the problems relating to this organization and will convene at the time the second session of the International University will start. It will offer an opportunity to those, who have devoted their life to the spreading and diffusing of knowledge among the youth of the world, of coming and helping in the development of what may and ought to become the common home of disinterested thought.

To enlarge it to its full size, the collaboration in spirit and in fact of those, among the citizens of the nations, who are the body and the mind of the highest educative institutions, is needed. By their adhesion, this home will not only become the symbol of the highest ideals and endeavours of mankind, but the university forces of the world will become conscious of their tremendous power and able to exert a legitimate, fair and decisive influence.



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